

**THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of: **Toru SHIMADOI, et al.**

Filed : **Concurrently herewith**

For : **OFFICE RECOGNITION METHOD IN....**

Serial No. : **Concurrently herewith**

May 23, 2001

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

S I R:

Prior to the issuance of an Office Action, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 27, line 18 with the following rewritten paragraph:

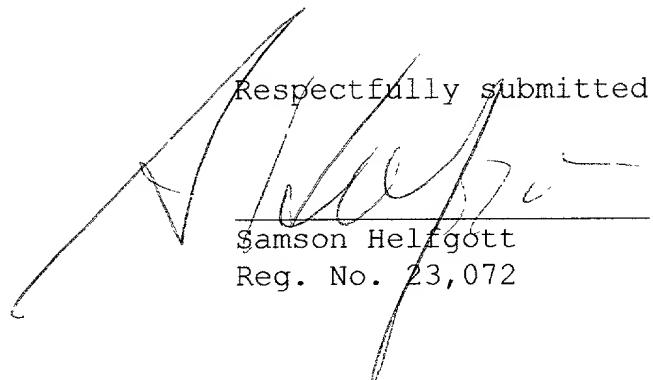
-- Figs. 30A, 30B and 30C are diagrams useful in describing the construction of a ring topology according to the prior art;--

**REMARKS**

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made.**"

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted

  
Samson Helfgott  
Reg. No. 23,072

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BWU:PRELIM

**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 27,  
line 18 with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Figs. 30A and , 30B and 30C are diagrams useful in  
describing the construction of a ring topology according to  
the prior art;--